

THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 4TH APRIL.

AN American paper writes:—"Women who have sons to rear, and dread the demoralising influence of bad association, ought to understand the nature of young manhood. It is excessively restless. It is disturbed by vain ambitions; by thirst for action; by longings for excitement; by irrepressible desire to touch life in manifold ways. If you, mothers, rear your sons so that your homes are associated with the impressions of natural instincts; you will be sure to throw them into the society that cannot in any measure supply the need of their hearts. They will go to the public-house, at first, for the love of liquor; they go for the animated and hilarious companionship they find there; which they find does much to repress the disturbing restlessness in their breasts. See to it, then, that their homes compete with public places in their attractiveness. Open your blinds by day and light bright fires by night. Illuminate your rooms. Hang pictures upon the walls. Put books and newspapers upon your tables. Have music and entertaining games. Banish demons of dulness and apathy that have so ruled in your household, and bring in mirth and good cheer. Invent occupations for your sons. Stimulate their ambitions in worthy directions. While you make home their delight, fill them with higher purposes than pleasures. Whether they shall pass happy boyhood, and enter upon manhood with refined tastes and noble ambitions, depends upon you. Do not blame miserable bar keepers if your sons miscarry. Believe it possible that with exertion and right means a mother may have more control of the destiny of her boys than any other influence whatever." And, mothers, be sure that your sons will soon despise a mother's care, and know how to enjoy themselves.

THE following is from an English paper: "It has fallen to a Labour representative, Mr. George Howell, member for one of the poorest parts of London, Bethnal Green, to strike a blow, which may prove fatal, against the corporation of London. It appears that Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Howell, and some others, forming a resolute little party, have become possessed of evidence that the corporation of London spent, of the corporation money, about £20,000, secretly, in creating an opposition to Sir William Harcourt's Bill for the municipal reform of London. This money, packed meetings, paid to 'chuck-out' opponents, and provided drink. On all this a righteously heavy hand has now been laid."

Iron writes:—"Neither Sheffield nor Birmingham, with all their skill, is able to turn out a sword blade which can be compared with the wonderful swords of Japan. For fineness of temper and keenness of edge they are unequalled in the modern world, and can scarcely be matched by the blades formerly forged in Damascus and Toledo. A common feat for a Japanese soldier is to cut a pig in two at a single blow; and bars of lead, and even of iron, have been divided by these weapons without a notch or imperfection being visible on the blade. While not possessing the marvellous dexterity of Sikh swordsmen the Japanese would be most formidable adversaries in hand-to-hand fighting. A sword of superior excellence is preserved as a heirloom in the Satsuma family, and with this blade a leaf floating on the stream has been cut in two by merely being allowed to drift against the edge. The fact is, the Japanese understand the tempering of sword blades better than any other people."

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from London, says that "the political effect of recent disclosures in high life is regarded with a certain degree of anxiety. Socialism has undoubtedly been making unexpected progress amongst the London artisans. This class is described by Mr. W. Rossiter, who has an intimate acquaintance with them during the last twenty years, as wholly unbelieving. He affirms that "towards all professions, and especially all teachers of religion, they have a very strong and very bitter antipathy; they look on theology as having the same value as astrology, and esteem the clergy as about on the same level as fortune-

tell, encouraging ignorance by teaching that which they know to be false."

TUESDAY, 5TH APRIL.

THE decapitation of dacoits. "In reply to Dr. Cameron, Sir J. Gorst said: "In reply to a telegram which was sent, as I stated last week, by the Secretary of State, the following information has been received from the Viceroy:—"Following from Chief Commissioner. It is true that heads of three notorious dacoits killed in a skirmish were brought into Bassein for purposes of identification. The heads were taken to wounded men in hospital who had been wounded by the dacoits and were identified by those sufferers. The heads were then buried. It is true that heads of dacoits who are killed are sometimes brought into head-quarters for the purpose of identification by reason of difficulty or impossibility of bringing in dead bodies from inaccessible places. Heads are not exposed or carried about the country for show." The Secretary of State has taken such steps as will prevent this mode of identifying dacoits being continued, and the Viceroy telegraphs that he has issued the necessary orders.

MR. MORLEY in his address at the Mansion House thus speaks of the "Best hundred books." "I have been asked to say something about those lists of a hundred books that have been circulating through this universe within the last few months. I agree with others that the steady working down one of those lists would end in the manufacture of that obnoxious creature—the prig. A prig has been defined as an animal who is overfed for its size; and I think that this precise amount would lead to an immense quantity of that overfeeding for size. The object of reading is not to dip into everything that wise men have ever written; in the words of one of the purest writers of English that ever existed—Cardinal Newman—the object of literature in education is to open the mind, to correct it, to refine it, to enable it to comprehend and digest its knowledge, to give it power over its own faculties, application, flexibility, method, critical exactness, sagacity, address, and expression. These are the objects of that intellectual performance which a literary education is destined to give. I will not give you a list of a hundred books, but will recommend you to one book well-worthy of your attention. Those who are curious as to what they should read in the region of pure literature will do well to peruse my friend Frederic Harrison's volume called "The Choice of Books." You will find there as much wise thought, elegantly and brilliantly put, as in any volume of its size, whether it be in the list of a hundred or not."

A PARLIAMENTARY return of the costs of all the candidates at the late general election, together with the details of such costs, and in each case the maximum scale allowed by the Corrupt Practices Act of 1883, has been issued. The sums given are inclusive of returning officers' charges. The summary shows that the total sum for England and Wales spent by 857 candidates was £515,683 (an average of 4s. 1d. a vote) out of the legal maximum of £711,075; in Scotland, £82,858 (4s. 7d. a vote) out of £108,850; and in Ireland, £25,544 (2s. 5d. a vote) out of £70,815.

THE latest craze of the officers of the Salvation Army is to paint their foreheads in imitation of the caste marks of Hindus. A Madras paper, noticing the arrival of Major Tucker and other Salvationists at that city, says that Major Tucker "wears on his forehead a red dot surrounded by three crescents, each of a different hue—red, yellow and blue."

RUSSIAN geographers report that numerous lakes in Siberia—chiefly in the Tobolsk and Tomsk provinces—are rapidly drying up, and that villages now stand on spots covered by extensive sheets of water 100 years ago. Lake Tohebakly has shown the most remarkable change, its area being 350 square miles a century ago, while it now consists of three small ponds, the largest covering not more than five or six square miles. In our country they would say the sins of the Czar are drying up the waters.

THE Secretary of State, we understand, has passed a severe censure on the practice of Medical

Boards, in general, certifying that an officer is, physically and mentally, perfectly competent and fit for a further period of, say, three years' service in any climate, whenever an extension of service is asked for after an officer has attained his fifty-fifth year of age. This, the Secretary of State observes, they are not required to certify; and indeed the value of a medical certificate as to an officer's health for three years to come is very questionable. All that is required is that the officer should be certified to be perfectly fit and competent for service at the time of his attaining fifty-five years of age. It is further observed that these examinations in the vast majority of instances take place some months after an officer has attained that age; and it is, therefore, directed that they should, in all cases, be performed very shortly before the officer's attaining the fifty-fifth year of his age.

WHEN the magazine rifle is made and issued to the British troops in India and the Martinis called in, the latter will be issued to the native army, but till the issue of the new rifle is complete the sepoy will retain their Sniders,

SOME military writers, however, consider that the magazine rifle has been unduly written up, to the detriment of its competitors. The magazine is something on the revolver system round the lock, and the bulk makes it a little clumsy to handle, but its other advantages will, it is expected, make it immediately a popular weapon.

WEDNESDAY, 6TH APRIL.

THE state of the crops and the present prices ruling in the Punjab are alarming. Since the rain of the 14th and 15th, the skies have been without a cloud, while the temperature has been through the day very hot. The wells have become very low and filled with very long-named insects; and the bazaar prices are ruinously high. On the day rain fell, *atta* was at 11 seers per rupee. For some days after it stood at 12 seers, but has since come to 11 again. This rate can only be understood from the fact that it means prices have doubled since last year.

THE following list of presents intended by the government of India for the Lhasa authorities and which were sold in Calcutta the other day, will amuse our readers. The Tibetans must be mere children if they could be won over with such toys. The list comprised cloths of different sorts, miscellaneous articles, such as ivory, cutlery, musical boxes, clocks, stereoscopes, sewing machines, kaleidoscopes, magnifying glasses, cabinet portraits, &c., Benares and Moradabad brass utensils of good workmanship, mirrors, dressing cases, gold embroidered umbrellas, electric and galvanic batteries, magic lanterns, revolvers, &c. A pretty yellow satin umbrella with ivory handle was knocked down for Rs. 50, while a Coromandel wood liqueur case with three cut glass bottles and six liqueur glasses went for Rs. 130. One musical box was sold for Rs. 160. A pair of cut glass claret jugs was sold for Rs. 130. For the brass articles and cloths, there were not many bids. Two very handsome gold embroidered umbrellas with silver plate and top were sold, one for Rs. 200, and the other for Rs. 210. The articles which realised the highest price, were a gold embroidered musnud and a gold embroidered elephant jhool, the former being sold for Rs. 230, and the latter for Rs. 125.

A RECENT calculation shows that there are 3,015 British officers in regimental employments in India.

THE War Office authorities have purchased from Mr. Brennan his invention of a torpedo for £110,000. The Government declare this a most valuable weapon.

THE *Journal de St. Petersburg* regards the telegrams from the East, concerning affairs on the Chinese, Kuldja and Afghan frontiers, as having been concocted for the special benefit of speculators on the Stock Exchange, and adds that no violation of the Amir Abdur Rahman's possessions is in any way meditated by the Russian Military authorities.

THE *Pioneer* writes:—"A well-informed correspondent writes to us that reliable news from Cabul

describes the Amir as seriously alarmed at the coalition formed against him by the most powerful and warlike clans of the great Ghilzai tribe, who muster strong in northern Afghanistan. The Amir, he says, has applied to the Government of India for help and advice, which, he has been told in reply, is contingent on the orders of the Home Government. Our readers will probably recollect that we foretold something not unlike this several months ago. The popular feeling against the Amir in Afghanistan is very strong, and the fanatical element against him is practically rampant, and successful in stirring up popular hatred and keeping alive the belief that he has secretly sold his country and people to the British Government, and has privately consented to the construction of a railway to Candahar, in order to facilitate the advance of British troops into Afghanistan. The Amir, our correspondent further states, congratulates himself upon his wisdom and forethought in securing the bulk of his treasure at Fyzabad, the capital of Badakhshan in Afghanistan-Turkistan, to which place he is fully resolved to retire in the event of serious reverse and disaster, of which he is apprehensive. And as there is no one left to succeed him, excepting Sirdar Ayub Khan, his cousin, who is now a refugee in Persia, most serious trouble and confusion should not be unexpected in Afghanistan.

A RICH specimen of tip-top unconscious Irish wit: A pair of "victims" are waiting behind a hedge for their landlord—guns loaded, cocked, and ready for action. It is past the time at which he was expected to go by. Still they wait, and wait, until at last they become uneasy: "Bedad, Pat," says Tim, "I hope nothin' has happened to the poor old gentleman?"

THURSDAY, 7TH APRIL.

THE operations for the capture of Tania have been placed by Government in the hands of the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, and detachments from the Central India Horse, the Malwa Bhil Corps, and the Bhopal Battalion are now engaged in the attempt. On the morning of the 24th ultimo, a Mahratta sepoy, named Ganpat, belonging to the expedition, was found missing on the roll of the Malwa Bhil Corps being called. Search was made, and the body of the missing sepoy was found on the bank of the Dipa River. He had been murdered by strangulation; his hands were tied behind his back, and in addition to marks of strangling, there were three wounds on his body—one on the neck, one on the skull, and the third on the face. His purse was empty, and he had apparently been robbed as well as murdered. So far only conjecture attributes this murder to Tania, but it is not unlikely to be his work.

MR. J. B. LYALL, who was staying at Allahabad, took over charge from Sir Charles Aitchison by telegraph, and left in the evening for Delhi. Lord Dufferin arrived at Saharanpore at midnight on Friday, and Sir Charles Aitchison on arrival from Lahore the following morning was sworn in at the railway station as a member of the Executive Council, the Viceroy, Sir Theodore Hope, Mr. Scoble, and Mr. Durand, Foreign Secretary, being present. Sir Charles Aitchison left Delhi on Monday morning en route for England on leave.

NEWS comes from the Tonasserim Division that 200 houses in the flourishing town of Hlinebony have been burnt. A detachment of 25 Punjabi police has been hurriedly sent from Moulmein to Hlinebony. There is not much news from Upper Burmah. The Wuntho Tsawbwa, having made full and complete submission, is to be left to govern his State as a tributary Chief, the British troops retiring to Kawlin, twelve miles to the south.

THE *Daylight* says: "When we only think of the net revenue of £43,000,000, we are wont to consider India a fabulously rich country—and so it ought to be to provide such a sum—but what can we say when as compared with the average of £38 income in England and £23 in France that of India is only Rs. 17, a sum inadequate to provide one wholesome meal per day?"

In regard to the campaign in Burmah, Sir J. Gorst placed the following facts before the House of Commons: "Sir J. Gorst, in reply to Mr. Richard, said the number of men engaged in the invasion and conquest of Upper Burmah up to Dec. 31, 1885, was 9,546. Of these nine were killed in action, one died of wounds received, seventy-eight of disease. Twenty lakhs of rupees were spent on the enterprise. In the operations for the suppression of brigandage and establishment of order that have taken place subsequent to the invasion and conquest up to Dec. 31, 1886, there

have been engaged 31,571 men. Of these, 100 have been killed in action, thirty-one have died of wounds received, and 967 have died of disease. The mortality has been much aggravated by occasional outbreaks of cholera. The cost of these subsequent operations has been 121½ lakhs. It is impossible to ascertain the number of Burmese villagers who have been slaughtered by dacoits or the number of the latter who have been killed in resisting the British forces."

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer, defending the vote on the Egyptian Subsidy, stated that, for the future, Egypt would have to pay her own way. Being charged by an Irish member, with having a personal interest in Egyptian Finance, Mr. Goschen declared that neither himself, nor the firm to which he formerly belonged, had any interest whatever in it. The House was greatly excited at the scandalous charge.

THE *Bombay Gazette* understands that a committee of influential ladies is being formed for raising a subscription to defray the costs of Rukhmabai's defence, and adds:—"It is not yet known what the costs will amount to, but they are scarcely likely to be less than Rs. 5,000, a sum which would exhaust the small remnant of her property which remains after the frequent demands that have been made upon it at various stages in the litigation. We believe that her case has excited great and widespread sympathy, and, as our columns have already shown, there must be many who, believing that Rukhmabai is justifiably defending personal rights and liberties, will demonstrate their approval of her conduct by helping her in her emergency. A well-known native lady to-day sends us a contribution to the fund." The English Press of Bombay are by their ill-judged philanthropy inciting a wedded wife to set at defiance the laws of God and man.

FRIDAY, 8TH APRIL.

A DOCTOR writing in the *St. James' Gazette* says:—"Six years ago I bought a practice in the south-west of England at the usual price—a year's purchase. It was only worth buying because the post of medical attendant to two large collieries went with it, on two conditions: firstly, I had to marry; and, secondly, I must keep an assistant. This preference on the part of the public for married doctors is natural, but not perhaps always wise; for the bachelor is generally more of a professional enthusiast, and he does not require to be so particular about his bills. However, I fulfilled the first condition promptly. The second has not proved such an easy matter."

SIR HENRY MAINE, LL.D., F.R.S.E., Master of Trinity Hall, has been appointed Professor of International Law in the University of Cambridge in the place of Sir William Vernon Harcourt. By the express injunction of Dr. Whewell, the founder of this endowment, the professor will "make it his aim in all parts of his treatment of the subject to lay down such rules and to suggest such measures as may tend to diminish the evils of war, and finally to exterminate war between nations."

THE Education Conference which has been sitting in the Director's Office, has discussed the grant-in-aid-rules, laid down certain limitations in the system of admissions which prevails in the schools of Calcutta, and prepared standards for the girls' schools and zenana missions. It has not yet ended its labors. We publish below the names of those who have been invited to take part in it:—Sir A. W. Croft, Babu Radhika Prasanna Mukerji, Mrs. M. Wheeler, Mrs. Clifford, Miss Hoare, Rev. K. S. Macdonald, Mrs. Macdonald, Mr. Amir Ali, Mr. Abdur Rahman, Babu Bijoy Kissen Mukerji, Dr. Gurudas Banerji, Mr. Madge, Babu Surja Kumar Adhikari, Babu Umesh Chandra Dutta, Babu Krishna Bihari Sen.

SIR George Trevelyan, it is said, has no intention of standing for Parliament until the Liberal party is agreed on a general policy with regard to Ireland.

THE Marquis of Ripon, speaking at the Borough of Hackney Working Men's Club on the subject of "Parliamentary Reform," argued strongly in favour of Home Rule, and called upon the electors not to let it be said of them in the future that their advent to the full rights of citizenship caused no improvement to be wrought in the condition of Ireland.

MR. John Ruskin is nothing, if not original. He is an opponent of representative Government, and a friend of the monarchical system. Writing to an English paper on 'Home Rule in Ireland' the eminent English *literateur* observes: "I shall like to see Ireland under a King of Ireland; Scotland

under Douglas—tender and true; India under a Rajah, and England under her queen, and, by no manner of means, under Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Bright."

THERE are now 163 Natives of this country in Britain. Of these 83 are Hindus, 44 Mahomedans and 36 Parsees. Most of them are from Bengal and Bombay, 51 belonging to the former province and 49 to the latter Presidency. His Highness the Nizam's Dominions are represented by eight. Most of the Indians in England are in London, Cambridge and Edinburgh, having only 17 and 10 of them respectively. Law is apparently the favourite study, as 74 are engaged in the pursuit of that subject; 7 are studying Agriculture and 4 Engineering. The number of Mahomedans proceeding to England seems to be on the increase, but there is no rise in the number of Hindus.

THE last Legislature of New York appointed a Committee to examine into the most expedient method of inflicting the death penalty in cases of murder in the first degree, and to report on the subject to the present Legislature, whether by bill or otherwise. The Committee, having examined the question, have, says the *Independent*, agreed to recommend the abandonment of hanging as the mode of punishing murderers, and the substitution of the electric battery so heavily charged as to produce instant death. The theory of such a recommendation is that death by electricity is more humane, because entirely painless, and more absolutely certain to produce the result on the instant, and at the same time less barbarous and offensive in the outward aspects of the process.

SATURDAY, 9TH APRIL.

THE European Cabinets have learnt that, "when the insurrections at Silistria and Rustchuk occurred, Russia asked France if she was prepared to take any action, presumably against Germany, if she (Russia) occupied Bulgaria; but that, France replying in the negative, Russia continued quiescent."

It is reported "that numerous bands of Nihilists thoroughly organised and in a complete state of preparation, are lying hidden in St. Petersburg, only waiting an order from the Nihilist Executive Committee to take immediate action. These bodies are not confined merely to the capital, but are scattered throughout the length and breadth of the Empire."

THE French naval manoeuvres in the Mediterranean in April will include an attempt to force the Strait of Gibraltar, a torpedo squadron opposing the ironclads. The selection of this spot is regarded as a questionable proceeding.

SPEAKING at Birmingham on March 12, Mr. Chamberlain said "Mr. Gladstone, who was acquainted with the nature of the objection contained in his former proposal, was the only man who could restore unity to the Liberal party; and added that he should support the Government in any measures they might introduce to strengthen the law against outrage in Ireland, but hoped that they, at the same time, would submit legislation calculated to prevent any abuse of power by bad landlords, and make a genuine effort to deal with the Land Question in such a way that tenants might practically become the owners of the land they cultivated. He insisted on the necessity of the Unionists strengthening the electioneering organisation, in order to be prepared to fight a triangular duel at the general elections."

It is stated on good authority that a treaty, renewing the alliance between Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy, was signed on March 13. Strict secrecy is being observed regarding the conditions, but it is understood that the new arrangement contains several modifications which are regarded as calculated to strengthen the alliance.

THE Russian representative at Peking is stated to have given China an explicit guarantee, declaring that Russia will not take any Korean territory.

SIR W. W. HUNTER, a Bombay paper regrets to learn, when he left for England on Friday, was "in a very indifferent state of health."

THE Chief Commissioner of Burmah recently received a large number of the principal Chinese inhabitants of Mandalay in the palace in that town. Mr. Crosthwaite has announced his intention of meeting their wishes by collecting the duty on jade at Mogoung; by moving the Government of India to defer the operation of the Limitation Act; and by allowing the India-rubber lease to continue until the term fixed by the late Burman Government has expired. The questions regarding opium, &c., he promised, should be considered.

THE following choice passage from the *United Irishman* have been re-printed in a Dublin newspaper:—"We have repeatedly stated in this paper our unalterable conviction that the English are a nation of scoundrels—the most unprincipled, dishonest, and rapacious of the human race. No private assassination is too cruel, public massacre too widespread, for this nation of incorrigible miscreants. This we deem it our duty to repeat at every possible opportunity. An ignorance or forgetfulness of this truth has led to all the disasters of Ireland. Until it is thoroughly understood—until Irishmen take it thoroughly to heart—until it becomes the primal article in the political creed of the Irish nation—the independence of that country is wholly impossible. The freedom of Ireland is incompatible with a good opinion of Englishmen. Their lower classes are brutes, their middle classes are swindlers—their aristocracy are foul, loathsome, and degraded blackguards. If the Irish people thoroughly understood the profound depravity and abominable wickedness of the English character, they would never expect from parliamentary agitation the concessions which guilty oppression will yield only to panic terror. Nothing will teach honesty to a nation of swindlers except abject fear of a violent, bloody, and immediate death." We reproduce this passage only to show to those who rant about the tone of the Vernacular Press, that even the worst vernacular paper is infinitely more gentlemanly than the best Irish paper. We defend not scurrility in the Vernacular Press. We denounce it loudly whenever occasion arises, and always regret its existence, but we cannot tolerate false clamour.

La Nature says:—"We recommend the following process for finding out the age of eggs and distinguishing those that are fresh from those that are not. This method is based upon the decrease in the density of eggs as they grow old. Dissolve two ounces of kitchen salt in a pint of water. When a fresh-laid egg is placed in this solution, it will descend to the bottom of the vessel, while one that has been laid on the day previous will not quite reach the bottom. If the egg be three days old it will swim in the liquid, and if it is more than three days old it will float on the surface and project above the latter, more and more in proportion as it is older.

We reproduce the following rather long extract from the *Rational Review* for the special benefit of our headless, and, therefore, heedless social reformers. "The usual retort, when women complain of want of remunerative employment is that they should not work, but find men to support them. As there are five hundred thousand more women than men in England, it is obviously impossible that every woman should have a husband. This state of things is as bad in Germany also. The preponderance of the women over the men is greatest in the professional and upper middle classes. Among the richer aristocracy of England, and the absolutely working people, the sexes are still equal in number, and women can still marry. But the sons of clergymen, officers, civil servants, lawyers, doctors, and some of the country gentry find the struggle for existence too great in this kingdom; they emigrate, or leave the country by joining the military or naval service. Their sisters all remain at home, unable to find husbands, uneducated for work, even domestic work. These "superfluous women" most undoubtedly, as a body, perform the first duty of their sex—that of being charming; they are often handsome, are generally well-mannered, and well-dressed. They are "charms," but there is no one to charm. They know very well that their chances of marriage are almost nil; therefore, should a solitary suitor with even a modest competency appear, they feel driven to accept the first man who asks them, whether they care for him or not, and most generally they do not. Parents wish to get rid of them, so they marry without love. An evil arises out of this, more ghastly than can be described. The marriage of convenience is a recognized social institution abroad. In England, in this nineteenth century, the women of the upper middle classes adopt it without acknowledging it. However we may affect to deny it, there is a vast amount of married unhappiness in all classes. The fault is sometimes ascribed to the present degeneracy of women, and sometimes to the deterioration of the men. The fault really lies in our social system, which gives a woman neither work nor money, and obliges her to sell herself before she has lost her only saleable commodities—youth and beauty. As there exists four "superfluous women" to one man, the female has no choice, while the lordly male has the greater number from whom to pick and choose. Therefore, in this century, many women have not only no chance of marrying at all, but no freedom of selection whatever."

EXPLORING the interior of the earth on a gigantic scale seems to be the great idea just now of scien-

tific men on both sides of the Atlantic. The well-known Parisian scientist, M. Camille Flammarion, suggests that a hole several thousands of yards deep should be excavated in the earth in order to furnish accurate knowledge as to the composition of the interior of the globe. Let the European Governments, he proposes, lend all their troops to carry out this colossal work, and by so doing two grand ends would be gained, the mystery under our feet would be revealed while soldiers would forget how to fight. The American suggestion, though of similar type, is more modest. A Bill has been laid before Congress proposing that a part of the financial surplus should be devoted to scientific enterprise, each State and Territory being presented with £20,000. to expend in drilling a hole 3,000 feet deep into the earth to discover useful knowledge and minerals. This hole is not to be on land controlled or owned by any religious sect. Millions of labourers would thus be employed, and millions of minerals would be forthcoming for home-use without resorting to importation. So asserts the promoter of this ingenious project.

THE total number of deaths registered during the week ending 2d April was 223 against 219 and 202 in the two preceding weeks and higher then the corresponding week of last year by 20. There were 59 deaths from cholera against 52 and 46 in the two preceding weeks. The number is less than the average of the past quinquennium by 36. There were no deaths from small-pox during the week. The mortality from fevers and bowel complaints amounted to 65 and 15 respectively against 58 and 13 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 26.8 per mille per annum against 36.4 the mean of the last five years..

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 1887.

NATIVE CAPACITY FOR TEACHING.

THE Public Service Commission was engaged on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday last in examining witnesses with a view to ascertain how far the present costly English agency in the higher branches of the Education Department may be replaced by cheap indigenous substitutes. The witnesses examined were mostly the higher officers in the Education Department, and their opinions must *ipso facto* carry considerable weight. The sum total of those opinions is that it would be injudicious to resort to native agency for the higher education of the people of this country. The issue is a grave one, and it is necessary, therefore, to enquire how far the opinions are reasonable and consistent. It may, at the first start, be at once stated that for teaching the highest standard of English required for the M. A. examination English professors are certainly preferable to native or foreign teachers. Idiom learnt from the native whose idiom has to be taught is the best, and this condition will last to the end of the chapter, i. e. till the natives amalgamate with the English race and make the English language their mother tongue. This may be looked upon as an axiom in the art of teaching. It is self evident; it needs no argument in support of it. In so far the race question must at once be accepted. This apart, that teacher is the best who has been himself duly taught, and has acquired the necessary training for teaching. In this case race does not come up as a factor. Holding this view we cannot help observing that most of the witnesses have failed to attach sufficient weight to the different factors of the case on which they deposed. For instance, Rev. K. S. Macdonald, of the Free Church Institution, thinks that "the College Departments should be maintained by European professors

mostly, and the natives should be allowed to teach in Mathematics and History." The "mostly," we suppose, is limited to the last two subjects. Now, the subjects taught in the College Departments include English literature, the European and the Asiatic Classics, Philosophy, Logic, Physics, Mathematics and History, and of these we omit English and the Reverend gentleman omits History and Mathematics. Does he then mean to tell us that no Asiatic classics can be properly taught, except by Englishmen, and that, though our forefathers cultivated Philosophy long before Englishmen emerged from woods and forests, and cultivated the subject to a higher, deeper and wider extent than Socrates and Plato, we are now unfit to learn and, therefore, to teach that subject? We may make the same remark about logic, in regard to which there is no *a priori* reason to suppose that Indians would fail on account of their race disqualifications. Historically, Indians stand at a disadvantage against Europeans in regard to modern Physics, but if Physics be, as it unquestionably is, an exact experimental science, it would be absurd to suppose that those who can learn Mathematics and History and Medicine would fail in it. True, at present Physics is not properly taught in Government Colleges; but that is not due to any race disqualification among Indian students. The more liberally the education Department will teach, the more abundant would be the indigenous supply and less the necessity for foreign importations; and when importation is really necessary the markets we should go to, both for quality and cheapness, should be those of France and Germany, and not of England. It is observable, too, that the opinion of Mr. Macdonald is not, as regards the College Departments generally, shared by other as competent witnesses. Mr. Pedler, Professor of Chemistry in the Presidency College, thinks "the native graduates are competent to teach up to the F. A. standard thoroughly," and that takes in about two thirds of the students of the College Departments, leaving only a little over one-third for English teachers. A much higher authority, in fact the highest authority on the subject, we mean Mr. Tawney, goes further. From his profound scholarship and "long experience of European and Native professors" he is of opinion that "the substitution of the Calcutta University men should be made up to the B. A. standard in some subjects only, but he would not certainly substitute them for the higher developments of knowledge connected with the M. A. standard." Mr. John Eliot, Professor of Physics, is also of this opinion, and so is Mr. A. M. Bose, who said "he would have native professors for the B. A. standard, but for higher teaching Europeans," qualifying this remark by adding, "in the Government Colleges the most qualified men should be obtained quite irrespective of race." If we accept the opinion of Messrs. Tawney, Eliot, and Bose, the teaching staff of fourteen sixteenths of our collegiate pupils should be natives, or may be natives without any detriment to the present standard of Indian education. Speaking generally, we would certainly vote for the highest qualification in our professorial staff, whether it be for the B. A. or the M. A. standard; but such a vote would be simply of the same character as wishing for the kingdom of heaven on earth; it would not be practical. What we have to determine is

whether the area of education should be circumscribed for the sake of the highest quality, or quality may be to a certain extent overlooked for the sake of a wide extension of general education? Put in this form, and this is the only reasonable business-like form in which the question can be viewed, we have no hesitation in saying that we accept the second course. It is incomparably better that we should have the light of education spread far and wide through the instrumentality of cheap, second-rate instruments than to allow mental darkness to prevail generally in expectation of the highest instrument. The man is not sound in his mind who would set aside an oil lamp in every hut of the country for the sake of an electric lamp in half-a-dozen houses, and the question of excessively costly first-class English professors *vs.* cheap native agency is the counterpart of it. That such a question has at all been raised is due to race feeling, to a desire to preserve the higher paid posts of the Education Department for the Europeans, and to prevent the natives from aspiring to them. This feeling is prominent in the depositions of several witnesses of high position. The Rev. Father Lafont is well known to our readers for the part he took in the Ilbert Bill discussions. With a large college under him for European and Eurasians, "whose interest he had at heart," he could not but try to improve the occasion. He accordingly dwelt upon "European and Eurasian lads with proper encouragement" being "capable of turning out very good useful teachers, and upon the partiality existing in Government offices in regard to the appointment of outsiders for posts which the East Indians, Eurasians and Europeans were entitled by reason of their long experience and training in the respective departments." He evidently took it for granted that Bengali lads were not "capable of turning out very good and useful teachers," and therefore, did not advert to them. Mr. Nash was more positive. He held that "the domiciled Europeans and Eurasians were generally better as class masters than natives, because the former have more energy and give more attention to their duties, though among the natives he had seen some good men." Both Father Lafont and Mr. Nash are men of considerable experience, and we should not hastily deny the correctness of their opinion, but we cannot help asking the question—how is it that the said "domiciled European and Eurasian lads," with better physique, more energy, and greater attention to their duties, cannot compete on equal terms with native lads; and why is it that the Government has been induced to lower the test of education in favor of those "domiciled European and Eurasian" lads? Father Lafont has a large college under him, and the teachers therein are mostly Europeans, Jesuits of very high training, and yet his pupils cannot hold their own at the University examinations against native lads of inferior physique, of less energy, and scanty attention to their duties. If the test of the pudding be in the eating thereof, surely his pudding is worth very little, notwithstanding all the European plums stuffed in it. As to Eurasians and East Indians the parade about race superiority is the merest bunkum. There is no substance in it. The quadroons and octaroons have indeed very little English blood in them, and the East

Indian of a sixth, seventh or eighth remove has only what chemists call a mere "trace"—a homœopathic fraction,—of English blood in them, and to expect that that trace, or homœopathic fraction, will have any effect on their mental capacity is to expect what history has belied in every other part of the world. It may be necessary for the sake of their official connexion for Father Lafont and Mr. Nash to advocate the cause of their *protégés*, but as a matter for public consideration their arguments are the weakest.

We have already admitted the value of English teachers in some branches of college teaching, and we are glad to be able to bear our humble testimony to the superiority of the Presidency College as an educational institution, and, with an earnest desire to see its superiority duly preserved, we are entirely in favor of getting out English professors of the highest merit in those branches in which local supply is not adequate. We cannot, however, forget the patent fact that the Metropolitan College competing with the Presidency College enjoying the advantages of the ablest professors and largely endowed with tempting scholarships, under purely native management, has very successfully held its own. The graduates, both M.A.'s and B.A.'s, trained in it have always run neck and neck with their more favored rivals of the Presidency College. That shows clearly that the objections against native teachers so largely dwelt upon by the witnesses amount to nothing more than race-prejudice, or an unhappy incapacity to face the question in full.

But whether so or not the fact remains that most of our colleges, independent and aided, have large staffs of native teachers, and some of our Government Colleges are entirely conducted by native agency. As there is no intention of abolishing them, and the independent Colleges cannot be abolished, except by some punitive law or other, the whole question is reduced to this—should the Government retain the present number of European teachers in its Colleges, or replace some of them by native teachers? The Education Department would certainly like to retain its European patronage, and to scrupulously close the door of the higher graded service against the natives. It is for that purpose, one is tempted to imagine, that the discussion has been raised, and selected witnesses put forward; but for the advancement of learning, for economy, for a wider field of usefulness, the sooner the fences are knocked down the better for the community at large.

THE REPORT OF THE SALARIES COMMISSION.

It will be in the recollection of our readers that the reasons which led to the appointment of the Commission, and the questions which it was directed to consider, were set forth in a Resolution of the Government of Bengal, in the Financial Department, dated 21st March, 1885. The Commission was directed to suggest means by which the system of correspondence, reports and returns between the various officers under the Bengal Government may be reorganized. "The complaints of the pressure of clerical work, and of the waste of time and power entailed on responsible officers by the necessity of referring backwards and forwards through

several channels, many petty details of administration, and of preparing formal reports and returns on a multiplicity of subjects of very different degrees of importance, have been every day becoming more and more common; and it was absolutely necessary that some means should be devised for dispensing with a great deal of what is now necessarily infructuous labour." The above quotation indicates the principal points to which the attention of the Commission was called; but the succeeding paragraph directed that the question of salaries should also be considered. "This question," it was said, "was considered in 1866 and 1867 by a Committee, of which Mr. V. H. Scholch was President, and a new scale of salaries was brought into effect in 1868. Since that time, although there have been numerous alterations and improvements of a more or less restricted character, and although the pay of very many individual officers has been increased, there has been no general or systematic revision of salaries. Meanwhile the rise in prices and in the cost of living, which was anticipated by Mr. Strachey in 1865, has continued at constantly accelerating speed, and for some time past signs have been apparent that the effects of the reforms introduced in 1868 have been exhausted, and that a further advance must be made if the ministerial service is to be maintained in a condition of efficiency. Applications are constantly received by the Lieutenant-Governor from all classes of ministerial officers praying for an increase of emoluments; and these are in the majority of cases based on the ground that their salaries were fixed many years ago, when the cost of living was much less than it is now, and that they are inadequate under the altered circumstances of the present day. It is impossible to deny that this contention is in a great measure sound; and in a large number of individual instances the Government has had no alternative but to sanction an increase. But the Lieutenant-Governor feels that these concessions are too frequently given, less to those whose claims are the strongest than to those who can make their voices most effectively heard. These facts, coupled with the numerous representations—from treasury accountants, from district and divisional sheristadars, and many others—which have with increasing frequency been pressed upon the Lieutenant-Governor, raise a strong presumption that the time has come for a general enquiry into, and revision of, the rates of pay drawn by the ministerial officers of Government in this Province."

In subsequent paragraphs, it was directed that the enquiries of the Commission should be confined to Executive offices under the Local Government, and the Lieutenant-Governor, without binding himself to any positive opinion, expressed the hope that it might be found possible to effect such a revision of establishments, especially in the vernacular department, as to provide the means for placing ministerial establishments whose work was carried on in the English language on a satisfactory footing. The enquiries of the Commission were also extended to the establishments of District and Sub-divisional Registrars; and they were further instructed by separate orders to report on several other questions of importance. The gentlemen appointed to this Commission were Mr. John Beams, Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, as President, Mr. W. H. Grimley, C. S.,

and Babu Durgagati Banerji, of the Subordinate Executive Service. Their report was received some eight months ago, and has now been duly considered by the Bengal Government, which has passed its orders on it.

The Commissioners were divided in opinion, and their report comes from a majority, the minority represented by Babu Durgagati Banerji, recording a separate minute. In commenting upon the report we refer to the work of the majority. The majority recommend the substitution of a system of control by means of inspection for that which is at present exercised by means of returns. Returns, they think, are ineffective as a means of control because it is difficult to test their accuracy, because they are drawn up, explained, and scrutinized not by the heads of offices, but by clerks; and, above all, because while they may correctly show what amount of work has been done, they cannot show how it has been done. On the other hand, their preparation and examination involve a large expenditure of time and trouble, and consequently of money. "Sir Rivers Thompson fully recognises the fact that inspection might bring to light many mistakes which could never appear in any figured statement, and it was for this reason that he often called the attention of Commissioners and District Officers to this important part of their duties. But it did not, therefore, follow that even the most careful and conscientious inspections would efficiently take the place and serve the purpose of periodical returns. On full consideration of all that the Commission have urged, Sir Rivers Thompson finds it impossible to accept in broad general terms their proposal that inspection should take the place of returns as a means of control."

The report succinctly discusses the economic and social changes which, in the Commission's opinion necessitate a general and systematic revision of the salaries at present paid to ministerial officers. Paragraph 190 considers the rise which is said to have occurred in the price of provisions since the last general revision of salaries in the year 1868, and in the following ten paragraphs an endeavour is made to measure the increased expenditure said to be necessitated by social changes in respect of such matters as marriage, religious ceremonies, the employment of servants, dress, the use of conveyances, house-rent, medicine and education. The general conclusion arrived at is that, the cost of living has risen 75 per cent. since the year 1868; that there are unmistakable indications on all sides of an upward tendency; and that though an increase of salaries to the extent of 75 per cent. may be impracticable, the scale should be raised as much in reference to the present and prospective rise in the cost of living as the state of the finances may permit.

Babu Durgagati Banerjee dissents from the view expressed in the report on the subject of social changes. He says:—

"It should be borne in mind" "that the *amla* class includes persons of very different grades of society. Their earnings vary from Rs. 8 to Rs. 200, and their social and domestic requirements cannot be fairly represented by a few extracts from the replies of a few officers of the highest grade, or of officers in the Subordinate, Executive or Judicial Service. Details about clothing, domestic servants, marriage expenses of a *sheristadar* on Rs. 200, or of a Deputy Collector or Subordinate Judge have little

or no relation to the requirements of a *mohurir* on Rs. 12 or Rs. 20; so that the statements of such officers, as extracted in this chapter, are of little value. If they do anything they serve only to mislead. In this country domestic requirements vary, not according to official rank or pay, but according to caste. A *Satgopa* *mohurir* on Rs. 16 is much better off in his circumstances because his requirements are less than those of a Brahman or a Kayasth on twice that pay. The former, generally speaking, maintains no relatives; the latter is bound by the rules of his community to support many. So that returns of domestic establishment obtained from different grades of officers irrespective of their caste cannot but be delusive * * *. I demur to the marshalling of figures which are *prima facie* not correct, and can serve no good purpose in arriving at a correct conclusion."

Sir Rivers Thompson entertains the belief that in the classes from which *amla* are taken, as in most other classes of the community, the standard of comfort has in recent years risen, and will continue to rise in the future; but the question whether this is so or not is not, in his judgment, one which it is necessary for Government in the present connection to consider. From the innumerable applications which come before the Government for employment in the public service in all its grades and departments, there can be little doubt that the supply of well qualified and educated men far exceeds the appointments which are at the disposal of Government. So long as the salaries offered suffice to secure the services of competent men, and do not fall conspicuously below the emoluments which similarly qualified persons can secure elsewhere, the presumption must, he thinks, be that the present scale of pay is sufficiently high. It is not, of course, necessary that the salaries of Government servants should be equal in amount to the incomes which may be secured by successful private enterprise, because the certainty of the former and the prospect offered of a pension on retirement materially affect the question.

Under the other different heads, and there are thirty-six in all, opinions seem to vary greatly, and the upshot of the whole is all but the total rejection of the recommendations. Only four have been accepted, and even these are open to comment. We must reserve, however, our remarks for a future issue. For the present, we need only say that the Commission and its report have ended in smoke.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

SOME discussion on this important question took place in the House of Lords on the 28th of February last. It was opened by the Duke of Marlborough, who rose to call the attention of the House to the terms of reference in the instructions to the Royal Commissioners appointed to enquire into the Currency Question. His Grace stated that in studying this subject it appeared to him that the appreciation of gold and the difference in the exchange value of the rupee in England and in India had a wider bearing on the existing great commercial depression than was sometimes acknowledged. He urged with great force that the one object which the Currency Commission should seek to arrive at was the stability of view. In this view all sensible persons will agree. The Duke said: "Now, the

important fact with regard to this question was that as the volume of trade had expanded the volume of the Currency had remained the same. It was manifest that if the volume of produce decreased very rapidly and the volume of currency remained stagnant prices would rise; wherever, on the other hand, the body of currency diminished and the volume of produce increased there was a fall. The question then arose in what degree the depression of trade since 1870 had been brought about by a scarcity of the currency. He thought that it could be shown that the whole of our commercial and agricultural depression was owing to the appreciation of the gold standard. From statistics which were available it could at once be seen whether the production of gold was increasing in a sufficient ratio as compared with the increasing volume of trade. Previous to the year 1870, the large discoveries of gold in California and in Australia had caused some 30 millions sterling of gold to be poured into Europe. Since 1870, however, the production of gold had fallen to 17 millions annually, one-half of which was absorbed by the arts. Therefore, during the last 15 years there had been only some 130 millions of gold available for the currency of the world. Moreover, during the whole of that time there had been great demands made upon the gold resources. Thus, since 1873, Germany had consumed 80 millions, the United States 100 millions, and Italy 20 millions in replacing their silver by a gold currency, making a total of 200 millions of gold which had been absorbed by those three nations. During the same period, India had likewise absorbed some four millions of gold as money. Nothing was more curious in connection with that question than the fact that the output of gold and silver taken together had hardly varied at all during the period to which he had referred." It appears that the combined output of gold and silver in 1870 was 31 millions and 38 millions in 1885. These figures shew that if silver had not been demonetized, England would not have suffered from the great commercial depression through which she is now passing. This has been proved to demonstration by Mr. Samuel Smith, M. P. in his admirable volume entitled *Gold and Silver and the Depression of Trade*. In 1828, Mr. Alexander Baring, as we all know, strongly urged a return to bi-metallism representing that the double standard would prevent those sudden jerks and changes so fatal to credit and to commerce. But the doctrinaire monometallists of England have been carrying a crusade against silver. Well did the Duke of Marlborough say that if silver could be used to discharge debts, its value would rise permanently compared with gold. His Grace made out a very strong case in favour of the introduction of bi-metallism in England.

The Marquis of Salisbury himself replied to the Duke of Marlborough: "We feel bound to say that the Prime Minister's utterances on the subject show that he has not carefully studied it. He agreed with the Duke as to the importance of the question; but he thought the remedy for the commercial crisis through which England is now passing was not so simple as His Grace deemed it to be. Lord Salisbury has persuaded himself to believe that before a fixed ratio between gold and silver can be established the difference

in standard between England and India must be got rid of. It would have been better for Lord Salisbury's reputation if he had not spoken anything on the subject, when he had nothing better to say. His lordship proceeded:—"Any advantage to be produced by the bi-metallic remedy, supposing it were possible, which is not proved, to establish a permanent relation of value between silver and gold and to prevent your altering their substantial values when the nominal values are fixed by law, you could only realize by an agreement among all the coin-using nations of the world." What chance is there of that? I am afraid we must go very much further in the path of international comity before any such thing can be more than a speculation." These few observations at once make it clear that Lord Salisbury does not know even the rudiments of the subject. It is a simple matter of history that the ratio fixed by the French bi-metallic law was kept stable for half a century almost entirely by the action of France alone. Mr. Barclay Chapman in his Memorandum on the subject which was laid before the Paris Conference of 1881 has shewn that a fixed ratio between silver and gold can be maintained by an agreement between England, France, Germany and the United States. It is well known that the American delegates came to the last conference in Paris charged with a scheme of international bi-metallism. France and Germany were ready to accept the scheme, but the refusal of England caused its abandonment. Mr. Samuel Smith in his *Gold and Silver* speaks nothing but the truth when he states that it is only the opposition of England which stands in the way of international bi-metallic agreement. The English, of all nations, suffer most from this monetary disturbance, and yet they are the only people who oppose an arrangement that would remedy the evil.

THE PURI TEMPLE CASE.

THE friends of Sir Rivers Thompson wonder how it is that his administration of Bengal proved so unpopular. The explanation is not far to seek. Though averse to the Biblical mandate about forbearance, Sir Rivers was a God-fearing Christian, and a gentleman by nature and training. He was, however, wanting in sympathy for other than persons of his own race. He could not bring himself up to the idea of the brotherhood of man, irrespective of all differences of complexion and accidents of birth. Like the sailor in *Punch's* cartoon, he was, when reminded of the fraternal relationship which a black man bore to a white man, too apt to exclaim with horror, "he my brother!" This feeling did not abate even when dealing with the woman-kind of the black races. In saying this we feel that we lay ourselves open to a charge, by his friends, of being rancorous, but the history of his five years' administration is a history of sad cruelty to some of the noblest women of Bengal. It is the farthest from our wish to charge him personally with any act of cruelty against any woman; the cruelty we complain of proceeded from his underlings, but as the head of the Government, perfectly cognizant of, and responsible for, the state of the province under his control, it was his duty to put a stop to it, and he failed to do so. His administration began with a series of high-handed acts of oppres-

sion against one of the highest ladies of the land, the Maharani of Tikkari. A Brahmin lady of the most punctilious sense of honor and independence, thoroughly able to manage her estate, though extensive it was, she could not stand being meddled with in the management of her own affairs, and for this fault, if fault it was, she was badgered, harried, harrassed, deprived of the possession of her ancestral estate, as also of her personal ornaments, driven out of her palace at the most critical time in a woman's life, and forced to seek shelter in an out-of-the-way bungalow, where she died of the want of proper medical aid and comforts, such as were necessary for her condition and station in life, immediately after delivery. The harrassment lasted for over two years, and during the whole of that period our contemporary of the *Statesman*, a true knight, *sans peur et sans tache*, with the innate gallantry of his nature, over and over denounced it with his utmost energy; but no good came of it. True, the harrassment proceeded from the local officers and the Board of Revenue, and Sir Rivers was then nursing an abscess in his liver; but the public cannot excuse him on that ground. He knew of it; it was his duty to take note of it; and he failed. And this failure led to the untimely death of a noble lady under the most painful circumstances. The second case was that of a Muhammadan lady of Chittagong, and to it we referred the other day in our review of Sir Rivers' administration. The third was that of the Dowager Maharani of Burdwan, a lady of the highest standing in Bengal. A clique wanted to deprive her of her property, and the local officers and the Board of Revenue lent it their aid. The claims were entirely of a civil character, and the Civil Courts of the country were the proper tribunals to adjudicate in the case; but the Board of Revenue brought their executive powers and unlimited influence to bear upon the lady, and harrassed her in a most shocking manner. In this case, too, our contemporary of the *Statesman* did his utmost to expose the wrong-doings, and Sir Rivers was doubtless kept fully informed of what were going on; but he did nothing to check them. He was directly appealed to on more than one occasion; but the painful situation of the lady failed to move his sympathy, or to rouse his sense of duty as a ruler. Two long years passed on in this way, and it was only lately that the scathing judgments of the High Court, most mercilessly exposing the wrong-doings of the executive, sufficed to secure to the lady a partial measure of Justice. The fourth is that of the Maharani of Khurda. Here again a clique wants to wrest from her what is exclusively her own, and the local officers have made themselves a party in the unholy attempt. A case has been instituted against the lady by Government to take away from her management the affairs of the temple of Jaggannath on the plea of mal-administration, or rather of inefficient management. The sworn affidavits in the case do not at all support the charge; but it is not our business now to discuss the merits of the case. The case has been instituted by Government with the advice of the law-officers of the Crown, and the Civil Courts here and the Privy Council will no doubt decide if in due course; but the action taken by Go-

vernment in attempting to take possession of the property under litigation immediately after instituting the suit was what the public was not prepared for. Such an attempt on the part of a private, unprincipled suitor would be looked upon with distrust, but none could think that a Christian Government under the administration of an English noble Knight would ever try to wrest property out of the hands of a helpless lady in such a way. There is no pretence that she is trying to alienate, do away with, or waste the property, and the only apparent object of the prosecution appears to be to deprive her of the means of carrying on her defence. We are glad that the wicked attempt has been defeated by a recent ruling of the High Court, and the intervention of the Court in this instance has proved most beneficial. It is for such acts of intervention that the Court is so highly esteemed by the people of this country, and it is an attempt like this that tends totally to destroy the credit of Government. It becomes peculiarly obnoxious when it is directed against helpless, *parda-nashin*, Hindu women. The French say, *Il ne faut qu'une mechante action pour tacher la plus belle vie du monde*; and three noble ladies in different parts of Bengal and the spirit of a fourth cry against Sir Rivers for merchant actions. Had there been nothing else to urge against Sir Rivers, these four cases would have sufficed to make his administration odious. The Hindus will forfeit all claim to their respect for their womankind when they will cease to be affected by cases like these, and it is gratifying to note that there is no indication yet of such a forfeiture.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

HIS Excellency the Viceroy intends to stay at Dera Dun till the 23d instant. He will probably pay flying visits to Masuri and Hardwar before leaving Dera for Simla.

The experiment of permitting the payment of revenue by means of postal money-orders in certain selected districts in Bengal, having proved successful, the Lieutenant-Governor has extended their operation to all the districts in the Lower Provinces with effect from 1st May next.

Punch's version of the Rungpur Deer Case (with an extra touching of local coloring)

M Le Comte Subtle revancheur. "Ha! quelle chance! un magnifique cerf sans cors!"

Donald (the Gardener) "Hi! Hulloo! mossoo le county! Don't shoot Sir! It's Champeon, Her Ladyship's tame stag from the south. He wants a bit of sugar!"

But *M. Le Comte* has no sugar, and he likes venison; so he gives a leaden pill instead.

At the sixteenth annual meeting of the National Indian Association, in aid of social progress and education in India, held at Willis's rooms in London, under the presidency of the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, Sir Alexander Arbuthnot moved "That the objects and work of the National Indian Association in England and in India merit the cordial support of all who desire the educational and social progress of India." He said that "the Association in England endeavoured to spread a knowledge of India, of that vast dependency which added so much to the wealth, power, and prestige of the dominions of the Queen. It also held out the hand of wel-

come to Indians coming to this country, and every endeavour was made, especially in the case of young men, to make their stay in England profitable to themselves and to the country to which they belonged."

QUESTIONS connected with the production of silk and trade in Bengal, have been engaging the attention of experts for some time. Two gentlemen in Europe have taken great interest in these questions—Mr. Wardle in England and Mr. Randot in France. Both have written frequent letters of inquiry and advice on the subject. Their advice, however, differs as to the direction in which investigation and action should be taken. Mr. Wardle's principal idea appears to be that improvement in reeling is required. M. Randot says that deterioration of the worm is the cause of decline in the Bengal silk industry and that investigation is necessary.

MR. FINUCANE'S Note on the subject gives a clear summary of the proceedings taken by the Government in the matter. When the announcement was made that an Indo-Colonial Exhibition was to be held, the Government of India was reviewing the various products of the country with a view to determine which of them might be most likely to reward efforts for the promotion of their development, and decided that silk was the product of which there was most hope. By the wish alike of the Government of India and of the Royal Commissioners, Mr. Wardle came to India "to give encouragement to the extended production of tussar silk, to collect samples of the wild and domesticated silks of India, and to see how it was that Bengal silks had fallen into disrepute within the last twenty-five years."

Having visited various filatures in Rajshahye and Moorsheadabad, Mr. Wardle, on the authority of some of the gentlemen whom he visited, expressed the opinion that the fibre of Bengal silk might be preferred in several respects to the Italian, if properly reeled. He attributed the decline in mulberry cultivation, which he had been informed had taken place in recent years, to the high and differential rates of rent charged for mulberry lands, the low prices of the silk market, the failure of the cocoon crops due to want of proper selection of seed by native breeders, and to the introduction of more profitable staples, such as sugarcane and potatoes. It was suggested to him that Government should rear cocoons for seed purposes, and should set an example to private zemindars by reducing rent for mulberry lands in its own and in Wards' estates.

Mr. Wardle's suggestions having been referred to Mr. Finucane he consulted the Collectors of the silk-producing districts on the question of the existence and effect of high and differential rates of rent. He also visited Berhampore and made personal enquiries among the managers of the principal silk filatures at that place, as well as from mulberry cultivators and cocoon rearers. He likewise discussed the subject with Babu Nitya Gopal Mukerji, a Cirencester scholar who has lately been deputed on special duty on enquiries regarding the decline of the silk industry in Bengal.

Mr. Finucane recommends that a Frenchman or Italian be got out on a salary of Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 a month for one year at least; that he be associated with Babu N. G. Mookerjee and placed under him; that he and Babu N. G. Mukerji work together in the microscopic examination of the moths and selection of healthy seed; that pending the Frenchman's arrival Babu N. G. Mukerji continue to work, as regards the rearing of the cocoons, on the lines now being followed by him.

THE last Report of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts says: "A decrease has taken place in highway robberies by five or more men. The decrease is due to the protection of the roads being better looked after. Of the house-dakaitis, three were the work of Tantia Bhil, who made an

inroad into the Melghat early in June, and succeeded in committing those three crimes and getting away." The passage is striking, as it shows that the depredations of Tantia have become so familiar to the Police authorities, that they do not think it worth their while now even to express any regret for their inability to capture this noted robber-chief. They have given him up in despair. A theory has been started by a correspondent of one of our contemporaries that Tantia is no Bhil, but a well-known rebel-chief in disguise. Rebel or no rebel, he has been able to defy British authority, and seems to gather strength every day. What surprises us most is that the Police are quite indifferent about capturing him.

WE learn from the last Jail Administration Report that the daily average jail population fell from 15,506 in 1881 to 13,504 in 1886. In five years then the decrease has been 2,002. If this rate be maintained, in another thirty five years the jail population will be reduced to zero. We shall not then have to wait for the millennium for a very long time.

THAT this is not the dream of an enthusiast is evidenced by the fact that the decrease in the jail population had been steadily going on during Sir Rivers' administration. In 1882, the population was 1,053, less than in the previous year; in 1883 the figure representing the decrease was 960; and though 1885 was an abnormal year, 1886 showed again a falling off in the criminal population. Even the most hardened sceptic must admit that the benevolent spirit who took under his care the Jail statistics of Bengal, would soon rid us of our criminal courts, and their paraphernalia, and thus reducing expenditure save us from many oppressive taxes.

WHAT is most striking in the Jail administration of the province, is the diminution of the death-rate. During the 20 years previous to 1883 the death-rate was 61.5 per mille; during the past four years it was only 49.4, and in the last of the four it reached the unprecedentedly low figure of 37.2. By the wave of the magician's wand, our Jails have been changed from plague-spots to sanatoria. "The enormous improvement that has taken place," says Sir Rivers Thompson, is due primarily, to the operation of the last financial contract, under which Sir Ashley Eden was enabled to devote large sums of money to the construction of new Jails, but largely also to the able and unwearied supervision of Dr Lethbridge, and the cordial co-operation of the Superintendents subordinate to him." The construction of the new Jails could not have materially reduced the death-rate, and so all the credit of this improvement is due to Dr. Lethbridge. If statistics be infallible, our Jails are so many elysian pleasure-gardens, abodes of health and plenty, whence disease and sorrow and death are fast disappearing. We would recommend the people of our malaria-stricken districts to migrate as soon as they can to Dr Lethbridge's prison-houses.

OUR contemporary of the *Hindu*, of Madras, is of course not a Christian, and has no respect for the Mosaic law prohibiting bearing of false evidence against one's neighbour. Had he been at all inquisitive about it, he would have found Hindu law quite as positive in that respect; but apparently he did not make the inquiry. Anyhow he has borne false evidence against us before the public. In his issue of the 23rd ultimo, he charges us with having raised "a cry against voyage by the sea" and "inventing feeble arguments," and taking pains to annihilate them with pomp and circumstance," in our article on "a Premium on Apostasy." He then hiccups out two mortal columns on seafaring, Visishtha's maxims, and a variety of rot, culminating in the exclamation, "how are the mighty fallen!" Unfortunately for the charges they are based entirely on fiction; they are wholly, radically, fundamentally false; there is not a syllable about "sea-faring," or "voyage by the sea" in our article. Even the words, "seafaring" and "voyage" do

not occur in it, and we said nothing for or against "seafaring." The opponents' arguments are all taken from Mr. Sayani's deposition, and not invented by us. Under the circumstances, our contemporary has sinned against that universal moral law which prohibits falsely accusing one's neighbours of imaginary sins, and should expiate the offence by performing a due penance. As he calls himself a *Hindu*, he will probably not object to a repast on the ritualistic five products of the cow. The object of our article was two-fold; first, to denounce the immorality of breaking a pledge, of breach of religious neutrality; and second, to point out the worthlessness of the pleas put forth by Mr. Sayani in favor of English training for Indians. He justifies or palliates the first by saying, "when the so-called breach has been thus suffered to occur and last for so many years it seems to us somewhat unreasonable that our contemporary should be in a violent rage at this time of day, as if it has occurred the other day &c." On this principle, we should not be permitted to resent any sin, for sin is coeval with civilized man, and has lasted for many many years. We in common with the public at large, however, decline to justify crime and immorality on the ground of their being old. As regards the second, our contemporary says, "Here and there we do detect an overstatement of the case on Mr. Sayani's part," but palliates the offence on the ground of its being due to "excess of enthusiasm." The defence is certainly clever, but it smells too much of Old Bailey. Besides the writer should not have forgotten that "an excess of enthusiasm" has sent many a witness to cultivate against his will the society of the tread-mill for seven years. As for the quotation from Visishtha, it has nothing to do with the question in hand, and we need take no note of it. Some people are particularly fond of displaying their learning by frequent quotations, and one who is not usually named in good society resorts to the trick of citing verses from the Bible with a more tortuous motive. Doubtless English training for Indians involves the necessity of a voyage to England; but it is only one of a hundred different incidents which go to complete it. These incidents result in a complete denationalization in food, dress, habits, manners, and religion, and that is what we complain of. There is a story in the *Uttararama-charita* of Visishtha having been welcomed on one occasion by slaying the fatted calf, but we presume that he has nowhere recommended corned beef and salted ham as articles of appropriate ordinary every-day food for Hindus.

TELEGRAMS.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN commented strongly on the ungenerous and unreasonable attitude of the Gladstonians in treating the conciliatory efforts of the Unionists as signs of weakness and indications of a complete surrender of their principles. He also said that he feared any settlement was as remote as ever, but he was unable to say why or where the cause of the hitch lay. Only Mr. Gladstone could reunite the party. The position of the Unionists was unaltered, and their objections were unmet. They had done all that was possible towards reconciliation, and could not usefully do more. Referring to the policy of the Government he expressed his readiness to support any measures punishing infamous offences, but hoped that the Government would concurrently announce some proposals for amending the law, preventing the present abuse of the rights of the landlords and dealing effectually with the land question, which was the real root of the evil. He was not disposed to agree with the recommendations of the Commission, and he did not believe in the efficacy of tinkering the Land Act. He hoped that the Government would substitute some greater measure, making tenants practically owners of the lands. Sir George Trevelyan, speaking at Liskeard, referring to the continued split in the Liberal party, said that it could not be expected that the Liberal Unionists would re-enter the party unless their objections, which had been definitely stated, were definitely met. Whenever a scheme was agreed to by the Liberal leaders of all sections, which he believed would soon happen, he would support it. The Conservatives were not qualified to settle the Irish question, which only the reunited Liberals

could settle. In the meantime, pending the production of some such Liberal scheme, the Unionists were bound to support the Conservatives.

THE Colonial Conference was opened (April 4) when Lord Salisbury made a speech in which he said that the defence of the empire was of common interest to England and the Colonies. The European nations, his Lordship said, were showing an increasing desire to acquire Colonial possessions, and it behoved the Colonies to take a fair share in the mutual defence by furnishing men as well as means.

SIR James Fergusson, in reply to a question, said that the negotiations between Sir H. Drumond Wolff and the Porte promised a favourable result. It was possible, he said, to fix a day when the Mission would terminate. Advantages were expected to accrue from the Convention which would fully justify the costs of the Mission. In conclusion, Sir James said that to make a statement to the House regarding the tenour of Sir Drumond Wolff's proposals to the Porte would only prejudice the negotiations.

In the House of Commons (April 5) Sir J. Gorst, in reply to a question, said that the submission of Burma was now complete, and that the country was accessible to British trade, though naturally disorder there was again possible.

In the House of Commons (April 5) Sir B. Samuelson the Liberal member for North Oxfordshire, moved the rejection of the Crimes Bill on the grounds that it would increase disorder in Ireland and endanger the Union.

CROWDED meetings were held (April 6) evening in different parts of London to protest against the proposed coercive measures in Ireland. Mr. John Morley and other leading Radicals addressed the meetings.

THE House of Commons adjourned for Easter holidays and will re-assemble on Tuesday, 12th instant.

COLONEL Sir Joseph West Ridgeway and Captain Barrow have started for St. Petersburg for the purpose of commencing negotiations with respect to points which are still undecided relative to the Russo-Afghan Frontier at Kamiab and Khoja Safeh.

It is reported that in satisfaction of an old pecuniary claim against the Republic of Hayti, England has demanded the cession of the Island of Tortuga from the Republic; failing which, the British Government threatens to bombard the Haytian ports.

THERE is great excitement at Port-au-Prince as well as at other places, and the Haytians are threatening the lives of foreigners.

GENERAL Salomon, the President of the Republic has not yet replied to the British demand.

At St. Petersburg, on the 13th, the police fortunately discovered and frustrated a plot to assassinate the Czar while driving back from attending the anniversary service. Owing to an intimation from the police, the Imperial party at the last moment changed their route homewards, and meanwhile the police arrested two suspected students loitering about in the Great Morskain, one with an imitation book and the other with a bag, both containing infernal machines. Over sixty other arrests have since been made. The Czar and Czarina then proceeded to Gatchina. The Czar returned to St. Petersburg on the 15th March for the purpose of attending a ball given by the Grand Duke Vladimir. The conspirators are believed to be Nihilists, and not Pan Slavists. The evidence at the same time shows a widespread constitutional plot.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN DISEASES OF THE THROAT.—Sir G. Duncan Gibb, Bart., M. D., LL. D. Physician and Lecturer on Forensic Medicine, Westminster Hospital, author of various works on Diseases of the Throat and Larynx, writes:—"The experience of many years has abundantly proved the truth of every word said in favour of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Oil by many of our first Physicians and Chemists, thus stamping him as a high authority and an able Chemist whose investigations have remained unquestioned. Its value, therefore, as a therapeutic agent in a number of diseases, chiefly of an exhaustive character has been admitted by the world of medicine; but, in addition, I have found it a remedy of great power in the treatment of many Affections of the Throat and Larynx, especially in Consumption of the latter, where it will sustain life when everything else fails. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil has an agreeable flavour, is very palatable, and liked by children; hence its value in the third stage of Hooping-Cough, when it acts as a restorative and tonic."

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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette.—April 6, 1887.

GENERAL.—Babu Grish Chunder Sircar, Sub-Deputy Collector, Nelpamari, Rungpore, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Siram Moitra is appointed to act as Sub-Deputy Collector of Nelpamari, Rungpore, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Grish Chunder Sircar, or until further orders. Mr H F Matthews, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Nuddea, was employed as Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector in that District from the afternoon of the 3rd to the afternoon of the 16th March 1887.

Captain M H L Gale, Behar Light Horse, is allowed seven months' leave of absence out of India with effect from the 15th instant, or date of departure.

Babu Dino Nath Day, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th instant, or such subsequent date, as he may avail himself of it.

The following officers reported their departure from India, on furlough, on the dates mentioned opposite their names:—Mr W Fiddian, 22nd March 1887; Mr J E Bradbury, 22nd March 1887; the Hon'ble H J Reynolds, C.S.I., 27th March 1887.

Babu Prosunno Kumar Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Illigori, Darjiling, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Upendra Chunder Mukerji, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is transferred temporarily to Darjiling and is posted to Silligori, vice Babu Prosunno Kumar Dutt, on leave.

Mr R H Wilson, Magistrate and Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to act as Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr J Seames, or until further orders.

Mr F B Taylor, C.S., has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for two months.

Mr H P Petersen, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is transferred to Dacca, and is posted to the sadder station of that district.

Mr F J Monahan, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Jajpore, Cuttack, is transferred to the Southal Pergunnahs, and is posted to Jamtar, in that district.

Mr T Norman, Magistrate and Collector, Mozufferpore, is allowed leave for two months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from 25th instant, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr G E Manisty is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Mozufferpore, during the absence, on leave, of Mr T Norman, or until further orders.

Police.—Mr J Rato, District Superintendent of Police, Cuttack, is allowed leave for two months and twenty-nine days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 9th instant.

Mr G A Patten, Assistant Superintendent of Police, is in charge of the Gurjhat Mahala Police in Cuttack, is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties as District Superintendent of Police, Cuttack, during the absence, on leave, of Mr J Rato, or until further orders.

Mr G D Graham, District Superintendent of Police, Bengal, reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 23rd, March 1887.

The following Officiating Assistant Superintendents of Police are posted to the Districts mentioned opposite their names:—

Mr F C Daly, Monghyr; Mr W Y Reilly, Backergunge; and Mr R Dundas, Shahabad.

Registration.—Babu Bhola Nath Dutt, Rural Sub-Registrar of Jamui, in the District of Monghyr, is appointed to be Rural Sub-Registrar of Begu Serei in the same District.

Babu Hurbans Nuran Singh, Rural Sub-Registrar of Begu Serei, in the District of Monghyr, is appointed to be Rural Sub-Registrar of Jamui, in the same District, on probation for six months.

Babu Upendra Chunder Mukerji, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Silligori, Darjiling, is vested with the powers of a Sub-Registrar, in the Phansedewah Thannah.

Education.—Babu Kshetra Lal Sinha, M.A., B.L., Officiating Law Lecturer in the Krishnagar College, is confirmed in that appointment, vice Babu Uma Nath Ghosal, resigned.

Port Trust.—Mr F M Halliday is appointed, under the provisions of Act V (B C) of 1870, to act as a Commissioner for making improvements in the Port of Calcutta, during the absence, on leave, of the Hon'ble H J Reynolds, C.S.I., or until further orders Mr Halliday is also appointed to act as Chairman of the Commissioners.

Medical.—Surgeon-Major O H Joubert, Officiating Civil Surgeon, Hazhly, is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of the 24-Pergunnahs, during the absence, on furlough, of Surgeon-Major J F P McConnell, or until further orders.

Assistant Surgeon Debendro Nath De, First Demonstrator of Anatomy, Medical College, Calcutta, is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Resident Physician, College Hospital, during the absence, on leave, of Surgeon J B Gibbons, or until further orders.

Dr W Forsyth, Medical Officer in charge of the Tirhut State Railway, is appointed to act temporarily as Civil Medical Officer, Mozufferpore, in addition to his own duties, during the absence, on deputation, of Surgeon-Major R G Mathew, or until further orders.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.—Mr T LL Jenkins, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinagore, is vested with powers under sections 110, 133, 186, and 524, of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Sudder Bench at Puri, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class:—Pundit Raghunandan Ramannuj and Babu Kheira Chand Addy.

Babu Moti Lal Sircar, Second Subordinate Judge, Dacca, is allowed leave for three months under section 132, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 21st March last.

Babu Purna Chunder Shome, First Munsiff of Kuchea Nuddea, is appointed to act as Second Subordinate Judge of Dacca, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Moti Lal Sircar, or until further orders.

Babu Ananta Ram Ghose, Munsiff of Hathazari, in the District of Chittagong, on leave, is appointed to act as Munsiff in the District of Gya, to be ordinarily stationed at the sadder station, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Brjomohun Pershad, or until further orders.

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16. The trusts Act II of 1882.
17. The Transfer of Property Act, IV of 1882, as amended by Act, III of 1885.
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